



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, DC 20460

**OFFICE OF CHEMICAL SAFETY
AND POLLUTION PREVENTION**

Mississippi Department of Agriculture & Commerce
Bureau of Plant Industry
P. O. Box 5207
Mississippi State, MS 39762

Effective Date: July 28, 2022
Expiration Date: October 15, 2022
Final Report Due Date: April 15, 2023
File Symbol: 22MS03

Attn: Jasper Cobb

The Environmental Protection Agency hereby issues a specific exemption under the provisions of Section 18 of the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act, as amended, to the Mississippi Department of Agriculture and Commerce (MDAC) for the use of thiamethoxam (CAS No. 153719-23-4), on rice to control the rice stink bug in Mississippi. This specific exemption is subject to the conditions set forth in your request dated June 23, 2022, the revised use directions submitted July 19, 2022, and the following conditions, modifications, and restrictions:

1. The MDAC is responsible for ensuring that all provisions of this quarantine exemption are met. MDAC is responsible for providing information in accordance with 40 CFR 166.32(b). Accordingly, a final report summarizing the results of this program must be submitted to EPA headquarters and the EPA region 4 office within 6 months following the expiration of this exemption or prior to requesting another specific exemption for this use. In accordance with 40 CFR 166.32(a) these offices shall also be immediately informed of any adverse effects resulting from the use of this pesticide in connection with this exemption.
2. The registered product, Endigo[®] ZC Insecticide (EPA Reg. No. 100-1276, containing 12.60% thiamethoxam and 9.48% lambda-cyhalothrin) manufactured by Syngenta Crop Protection, LLC., may be applied. All applicable directions for use, restrictions, and precautions on the EPA-registered product label including Worker Protection Standards must be followed, as well as those outlined on the revised Section 18 use directions submitted July 19, 2022, unless otherwise modified in this authorization document.
3. Up to four applications of Endigo[®] ZC Insecticide may be made by aerial equipment only, at a rate of 4.5 - 6.0 fl. oz./A/application (0.042 - 0.055 lb. thiamethoxam and 0.031 - 0.041 lb. lambda-cyhalothrin) not to exceed an annual maximum application rate of 18.5 fl. oz./A/year (0.170 lb. of thiamethoxam and 0.120 lb. of lambda-cyhalothrin).
4. A 21-day pre-harvest interval (PHI), a 5-day retreatment interval (RTI) and a 24-hour restricted entry interval (REI) must be observed.
5. To mitigate potential risks to aquatic taxa, the following restrictions must be observed: "Do not release flood water within 7 days of an application" and "Do not use treated rice fields for the aquaculture of edible fish and crustacea."

6. A maximum of 50,000 acres of rice fields may be treated in the following counties in Mississippi: Bolivar, Coahoma, Desoto, Humphreys, Leflore, Panola, Quitman, Sharkey, Sunflower, Tallahatchie, Tunica, and Washington
7. Applications made in accordance with the above provisions are not expected to exceed combined residues of thiamethoxam, including its metabolites and degradates, in or on rice, grain at 6.0 ppm and rice, straw at 2.0 ppm. The Agency has determined these levels are adequate to protect public health. Time-limited tolerances in connection with a previous Section 18 action have been established under 40 CFR §180.565(b) in or on rice, grain at 6.0 ppm and rice, straw at 2.0 ppm support this emergency use.
8. Section 18 use of thiamethoxam on rice results in potential clothianidin (a major metabolite of thiamethoxam) residues, that when combined with the residues from the Section 3 use of clothianidin on rice, require an increase in the tolerance for residues of clothianidin in rice. Therefore, applications made in accordance with the above provisions are not expected to exceed combined residues of clothianidin in or on rice, grain at 0.50 ppm. The Agency has determined this level is adequate to protect public health. A time-limited tolerance in connection with a previous Section 18 action has been established under 40 CFR §180.586(b) to support this emergency use.

This is the first year that MDAC has requested an emergency exemption under Section 18 of FIFRA for use of thiamethoxam (co-formulated with lambda-cyhalothrin) in rice to control rice stink bug. The registrant, Syngenta Crop Protection, LLC has submitted a PRIA application for a Section 3 registration for this use on rice, which is currently under review. Therefore, progress toward registration is adequate at this time. In the event the MDAC requests an emergency exemption for this use next year, EPA is making a preliminary determination that this use is not eligible for a streamlined application under the re-certification program (40 CFR 166.20(b)(5)) because it is uncertain whether the shortages of the alternative tools experienced in 2021-2022 will continue. Any future requests for this use should provide an update and documentation regarding supply of alternative products. Future correspondence in connection with this exemption should refer to file symbol: 22MS03.

If you have any questions with respect to this authorization, please contact Emergency Response Team member Andrea Conrath (conrath.andrea@epa.gov, 202-566-2568) or the Emergency Response Team Senior Regulatory Specialist, David Lieu (lieu.david@epa.gov 202-566-2815).

Marietta Echeverria, Acting Director
Registration Division
Office of Pesticide Programs

cc: Randy Dominy, USEPA Region 4
Patricia Livingston, USEPA Region 4 Tribal Coordinator